IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, including steps of

repeatedly reviewing monitoring statistics regarding operation of a file server, said

steps of reviewing being performed at least as often as a selected time period; and

processing said monitoring statistics using a diagnostic software module, in

response to said steps of repeatedly reviewing;

wherein said diagnostic software module diagnoses a behavior of said file server

to determine a specific problem or problems by comparing said monitoring statistics to rules or

patterns representing abnormal states of operation for said file server.

2. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said diagnostic software module

includes a pattern matching system and a rule-based inference system.

3. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said monitoring statistics include

information gathered by at least a first and at least a second software module, said first and

second software modules being disposed at differing levels within an operating system of said

file server.

4. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said monitoring statistics include information gathered by at least one software module within an operating system of said file server.

5. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said selected time period is less than 10 seconds.

6. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said steps of processing are responsive to a usage profile for said file server.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 6, wherein said usage profile includes information regarding whether use of said file server includes usage as an ISP, a development environment, or a mail server.

Claims 8 to 12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method, including steps of

tracking configuration changes to a file server;

identifying changes in monitoring statistics for said file server that indicate an error or other failure in said file server;

relating said changes in said monitoring statistics to timing of said configuration changes; ~~and~~

determining, in response to said steps of tracking and of relating, a configuration change most likely to be responsible for said error or other failure in said file server; and

suggesting, in response to a result of said step of determining, an activity to reverse one or more of said configuration changes.

14. (Original) A method as in claim 13, including steps of suggesting activities to reverse said configuration changes so as to place said file server in an operating state.

15. (Original) A method as in claim 13, wherein said configuration changes include hardware and software configuration changes.

16. (Currently Amended) A file server comprising:

an interface to a network;

mass storage accessible through said interface;

a processor that controls access to said mass storage; and

a memory that stores information including instructions executable by said processor, said instructions including steps of (a) repeatedly reviewing monitoring statistics regarding operation of said file server, said steps of reviewing being performed at least as often

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as a selected time period, and (b) processing said monitoring statistics using a diagnostic software module, in response to said steps of repeatedly reviewing;

wherein said diagnostic software module diagnoses a behavior of said file server to determine a specific problem or problems by comparing said monitoring statistics to rules or patterns representing abnormal states of operation for said file server.

17. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 16, wherein said diagnostic software module includes a pattern matching system and a rule-based inference system.

18. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 16, wherein said monitoring statistics include information gathered by at least a first and at least a second software module, said first and second software modules being disposed at differing levels within an operating system of said file server.

19. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 16, wherein said monitoring statistics include information gathered by at least one software module within an operating system of said file server.

20. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 16, wherein said selected time period is less than 10 seconds.

21. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 16, wherein said steps of processing are responsive to a usage profile for said file server.

22. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 21, wherein said usage profile includes information regarding whether use of said file server includes usage as an ISP, a development environment, or a mail server.

Claims 23 to 26 (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A file server comprising:

an interface to a network;

mass storage accessible through said interface;

a processor that controls access to said mass storage; and

a memory that stores information including instructions executable by said processor, said instructions including steps of (a) tracking configuration changes to said file server, (b) identifying changes in monitoring statistics for said file server that indicate an error or other failure in said file server, (c) relating said changes in said monitoring statistics to timing of said configuration changes, ~~and~~ (d) determining, in response to said steps of tracking and of relating, a configuration change most likely to be responsible for said error or other failure in said file server, and (e) suggesting, in response to a result of said step of determining, an activity to reverse one or more of said configuration changes.

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28. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 27, wherein said instructions further include steps of suggesting activities to reverse said configuration changes so as to place said file server in an operating state.

29. (Previously Presented) A file server as in claim 27, wherein said configuration changes include hardware and software configuration changes.

30. (Currently Amended) A memory storing information including instructions, the instructions executable by a processor to control a file server, the instructions including steps of

repeatedly reviewing monitoring statistics regarding operation of said file server, said steps of reviewing being performed at least as often as a selected time period; and

processing said monitoring statistics using a diagnostic software module, in response to said steps of repeatedly reviewing;

wherein said diagnostic software module diagnoses a behavior of said file server to determine a specific problem or problems by comparing said monitoring statistics to rules or patterns representing abnormal states of operation for said file server.

31. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 30, wherein said diagnostic software module includes a pattern matching system and a rule-based inference system.

32. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 30, wherein said monitoring statistics include information gathered by at least a first and at least a second software module, said first and second software modules being disposed at differing levels within an operating system of said file server.

33. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 30, wherein said monitoring statistics include information gathered by at least one software module within an operating system of said file server.

34. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 30, wherein said selected time period is less than 10 seconds.

35. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 30, wherein said steps of processing are responsive to a usage profile for said file server.

36. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 35, wherein said usage profile includes information regarding whether use of said file server includes usage as an ISP, a development environment, or a mail server.

Claims 37 to 40 (Cancelled)

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41. (Currently Amended) A memory storing information including instructions, the instructions executable by a processor to control a file server, the instructions including steps of

tracking configuration changes to said file server;

identifying changes in monitoring statistics for said file server that indicate an error or other failure in said file server;

relating said changes in said monitoring statistics to timing of said configuration changes; ~~and~~

determining, in response to said steps of tracking and of relating, a configuration change most likely to be responsible for said error or other failure in said file server; and

suggesting, in response to a result of said step of determining, an activity to reverse one or more of said configuration changes.

42. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 41, wherein said instructions further include steps of suggesting activities to reverse said configuration changes so as to place said file server in an operating state.

43. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 41, wherein said configuration changes include hardware and software configuration changes.